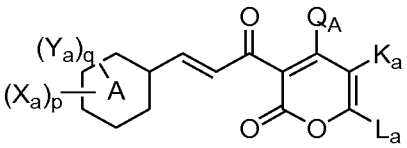
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Withdrawn) A I type collagen gene transcription suppressing composition, which comprises a 2H-pyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (IV):



(IV)

[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_a)_p$, X_a is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a nitro group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (R represents a C1-C10 haloalkyl group, and B represents an oxy group or a thio group), p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_a's are the same or different;

III. In $(Y_a)_q$, Y_a is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_1 group or Y_1 group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_a's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_a's constitute a Z_1 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

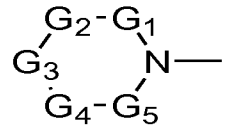
(1) a X_1 group:

a M_a-group [M_a represents a R_b-group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxyl group, a R_c-B_a-R_d-group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d-group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-R_d-group (R_e represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-O-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eO-CO-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-

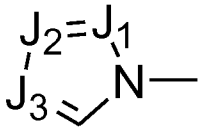
group, a R_eR_e'N-R_d-group (R_e and R_e' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-NR_e'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_bO-CO-N(R_e)-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-NR_e"-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_e" are the same or different, R_e and R_e' are as defined above, R_e" has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-C(=NR_e")-NR_e"'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e', R_e" and R_e"' are the same or different, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above, R_e"' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_b-SO_2-NR_e-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-SO_2-R_d-group(R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that when A represents a benzene ring, a X_a-group (X_a is as defined above) is excluded;

(2) a Y_1 group:

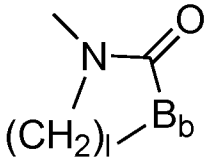
a M_b-R_d-group [M_b represents a M_c-group {M_c represents a M_d-R_d'-group {M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above) or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or

(b) 

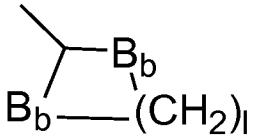
a (b)-group {in (b), G_1, G_2, G_4 and G_5 represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G_3 represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a –NR_1-group {R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B_1 represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a -NR_1-group (R_1 is as defined above)},

(c) 

a (c)-group (in (c), J_1, J_2 and J_3 are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),

(d) 

a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group, or a thio group), or

(e) 

an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above),a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a McR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e"-group (M_c, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above), a Mc-SO_2-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a M_cR_eN-SO_2-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z_1 group:

a –N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a –Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b"-group (Y_b and Y_b" are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a –Y_c-O-Y_c'-O-group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and represent a C1-C10 alkylene group);

IV. Q_A represents a hydroxyl group, a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), an A_9-B_6-B_c-group [A_9 represents a substituent of the following A_7 group or A_8 group, B_6 represents a carbonyl group or a thiocarbonyl group, B_c represents an oxy group or a $-N((O)_mR_1)$-group (m represents 0 or 1, and R_1 is as defined above), provided that when A_9 is a hydrogen atom, B_c is not a sulfonyl group], an A_7"-SO_2-B_c-group (A_7" represents a substituent of the following A_7" group, and B_c is as defined above), an A_8-SO_2-B_c-group (A_8 represents a substituent of the following A_8 group, and B_c is as defined above, provided that A_8 is not a hydrogen atom), a R_1R_1'N-SO_2-Bc-group (R_1 is as defined above, R_1' is the same as or different from R_1, and has the same meaning as that of R_1, and B_c is as defined above), a (b)-SO_2-B_c-group ((b) and B_c are as defined above), an A_9'-B_c-group (A_9' represents a substituent of the following A_7' group or A_8' group, and B_c is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-B_c-group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, R_4 represents a C1-C10 alkylene group, and B_c is as defined above), M_c-B_3-B_c-group (B_3 represents a carbonyl group, a thiocarbonyl group or a sulfonyl group and M_c and B_c are as defined above) or a M_c-B_c-group (M_c and B_c are as defined above);

(1) an A_7 group:

a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C2-C10 alkynyl group, a C3-C10 haloalkynyl group, a R_2-B_1-R_4-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_4-R_4-group (D_4 represents a substituent of the following D_4 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, R_4 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4-group {D_1 represents a substituent of the following D_1 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, a (b)-R_4-group {(b) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above}, a (c)-R_4-group ((c) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group {D_2 represents a substituent of the following D_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, a D_3-R_4-group {D_3 represents a substituent of the following D_3 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, an A_4-SO_2-R_4-group {A_4 represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or a R_1R_1'N-group (R_1 and R_1' are as defined above), and R_4 is as defined above} or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 represents a substituent of the following A_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above);

(2) an A_8 group: a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom;

(3) an A_7' group: a C3-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2-B_1-R_4'-group (R_2 and B_1 are as

defined above, and R_4' represents a C_2-C10 alkylene group), a D_4-R_4'-group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_1-R_4'-group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a (b)-R_4'-group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)-R_4'-group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_3-R_4'-group (D_3 and R_4' are as defined above) or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);

(4) an A_8' group: a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group;

(5) an A_7" group: a C2-C10 alkenyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2-B_1-R_4'-group (R_2, B_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_4-R_4'-group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_1-R_4'-group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), (b)-R_4'-group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)-R_4'-group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a NO_2-R_4-group (R_4 is as defined above) or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);

(i) a D_4 group: a hydroxyl group or an A_1-O-group [A_1 represents a R_3-$(CHR_0)_m$-$(B_2$-$B_3)_{m'}$-group {R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above), or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a C2-C10 alkynyl group, R_0 represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, m is as defined above, B_2 represents a single bond, an oxy group, a thio group or a –$N(O)_nR_1$')-group (R_1' is as defined above, and n represents 0 or 1, B_3 is as defined above, m' represents 0 or 1 and, when B_3 is a sulfonyl group, m is 0, and R_3 is not a hydrogen atom)}];

(ii) a D_5 group: an O=$C(R_3)$-group (R_3 is as defined above), an A_1-$(O)_n$-N=$C(R_3)$-group (A_1, n and R_3 are as defined above), a R_1-B_0-CO-R_4-$(O)_n$-N=$C(R_3)$-group [R_1, R_4, n and R_3 are as defined above, and B_0 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a –$N((O)_mR_1$')-group (R_1' and m are as defined above)], a D_2-R_4-$(O)_n$-N=$C(R_3$-group (D_2, R_4, n and R_3 are as defined above) or a R_1A_1N-N=$C(R_3)$-group (R_1,A_1 and R_3 are as defined above);

(iii) a D_1 group: a (R_1-$(O)_k$-)A_1N-$(O)_{k'}$-group (R_1 and A_1 are as defined above, and k and k' are the same or different, and represent 0 or 1);

(iv) a D_2 group: a cyano group, a R_1R_1'NC(=N-$(O)_n$-A)-group (R_1, R_1', n and N_1 are as defined above), an A_1N=C(-OR_2)-group (A_1 and R_2 are as defined above) or a NH_2-CS-group.

(v) a D_3 group: a nitro group or a R_1OSO_2-group (R_1 is as defined above);

(vi) an A_2 group:

1) an A_3-B_4-group

[A_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a R_a-$(R_4)_m$-group (R_a represents a phenyl group, a pyridyl group, a furyl group or a thienyl group, optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group or a nitro group, and R_4 and m are as defined above), or a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a (b)-R_4-group ((b) and R_4 are as defined above), a (c)-R_4-group ((c) and R_4 are as defined above), a R_2-B_1-R_4-group (R_2, B_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_4-R_4-group (D_4 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_5-group (D_5 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4-group (D_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_2-group (D_2 is as defined above), a D_3-R_4-group (D_3 and R_4 are as defined above) or an A_4-SO_2-R_4-group {A_4 is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above};

B_4 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a $-N((O)_mR_1)$-group (R_1 and m are as defined above), provided that when B_4 is a thio group, A_3 is not a hydrogen atom];

2) a R_1-B_4-CO-R_4-B_4'-group (R_1, B_4 and R_4 are as defined above, B_4' is the same as or different from B_4, and has the same meaning as that of B_4, provided that when B_4 is a thio group, R_2 is not a hydrogen atom) or a D_2-R_4-B_4-group (D_2, R_4 and B_4 are as defined above);

3) a R_2-SO_2-NR_1-group (R_2 is as defined above, provided that a hydrogen atom is excluded, and R_1 is as defined above),

4) a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above);

5) a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above); or

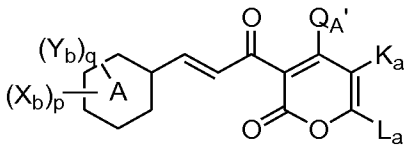
6) a R_1A_1N-NR_1'-group (R_1, R_1 and R_1' are as defined above);

V. K_a represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkyl group, L_a represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a M_b-group (M_b is as defined above), or K_a and L_a may form a C1-C10 alkylene group, provided that when K_a is a hydrogen atom, L_a is a methyl group and an A ring is a benzene ring, p is 2, 3 or 4 in the case that q is 0; and

the "as defined above" in the same symbol between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in a range];

and an inert carrier;

5. (Withdrawn) A 2H-pyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (V):



(V)

[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_b)_p$, X_b is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a nitro group, or a C2-C10 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (R represents a C1-C10 haloalkyl group, and B represents an oxy group or a thio group), p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_b's are the same or different;

III. In $(Y_b)_q$, Y_b is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_2 group or Y_2 group, q represents 0,1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_b's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_b's constitutes a group of a Z_2 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

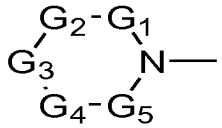
(1) a X_2 group:

a M_a-group [M_a represents a R_b-group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a R_c-B_a-R_d-group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d-group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-R_d-group (R_e represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-O-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eO-CO-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_eR_e'N-R_d-group (R_e and R_e' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-NR_e'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_bO-CO-N(R_e)-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-

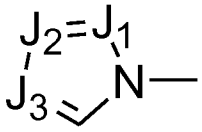
CO-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-NR_d"-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_e" are the same or different, R_e has the same meaning as that of R_e', R_e" has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-C(=NR_e")-NR_e"'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e', R_e" and R_e"' are the same or different, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above, R_e"' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_b-SO_2-NR_e-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_e R_e'N-SO_2-R_d –group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that, when A represents a benzene ring, then, a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a nitro group, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (R and B are as described above) is excluded;

(2) a Y_2 group:

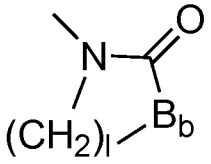
a M_b-R_d-group [M_b represents a M_c-group {M_c represents a M_d-R_d'-group {M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above) or

(b) 

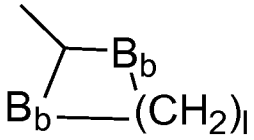
a (b)-group {in (b), G_1, G_2, G_4 and G_5 represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G_3 represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group, or a –NR_1-group {R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B_1 represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a NR_1- group (R_1 is as defined above)},

(c) 

a (c)-group (in(c), J_1, J_2 and J_3 are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),

(d) 

a (d) group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group) or

(e) 

an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_d' are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e"-group (M_c , R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above), a M_c-SO_2-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or M_cR_eN-SO_2-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z_2 group:

a –N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted C1-C10 alkyl group), a –Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b"-group (Y_b and Y_b" are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a –Y_c-O-Y_c'-O-group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and represent a C1-C10 alkylene group);

III. Q_A' represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), an A_9-B_6-B_c-group [A_9 represents a substituent of the following A_7 group or A_8 group, B_6 represents a carbonyl group or a thiocarbonyl group, and B_c represents an oxy group or a -N((O)$_m$$R_1$-group (m represents 0 or 1, and R_1 is as defined above), provided that when A_9 is a hydrogen atom, then B_c is not a sulfonyl group], an A_7"-SO_2-B_c-group (A_7" represents a substituent of the following A_7" group, and B_c is as defined above), an A_8-SO_2-B_c-group (A_8 represents a substituent of the following A_8 group, and B_c is as defined above, provided that A_8 is not a hydrogen atom), a R_1R_1'N-SO_2-B_c-group (R_1 is as defined above, R_1' is the same as or different from R_1, and has the same meaning as that of R_1 and B_c is as defined above), a (b)-SO_2-B_c-group ((b) and B_c are as defined above), an A_9'-B_c-group (A_9' represents a substituent of the following A_7' group or A_8' group, and B_c is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-B_c-group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, R_4 represents a C1-C10 alkylene group, and B_c is as defined above), a M_c-B_3-B_c-group (B_3 represents a carbonyl group, a thiocarbonyl group or a sulfonyl group, and M_c and B_c are as defined above) or a M_c-B_c-group (M_c and B_c are as defined above);

(1) an A_7 group:

a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C2-C10 alkynyl group, a C3-C10 haloalkynyl group, a R_2-B_1-R_4-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_4-R_4-group (D_4 represents a substituent of the following D_4 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4-group {D_1 represents a substituent of the following D_1 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, a (b)-R_4-group ((b) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a (c)-R_4-group ((c) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group {D_2 represents a substituent of the following D_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, a D_3-R_4-group {D_3 represents a substituent of the following D_3 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, an A_4-SO_2-R_4-group {A_4 represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or a R_1R_1'N-group (R_1 and R_1' are as defined above), and R_4 is as defined above} or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 represents a substituent of the following A_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above);

(2) an A_8 group: a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom;

(3) an A_7' group: a C3-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C_2-B_1-R_4'-group (C_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4' represents a C2-C10 alkylene group), a D_4-R_4'-group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_1-R_4'-group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a (b)-R_4'-group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)-R_4'-group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_3-R_4'-group (D_3 and R_4' are as defined above) or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);

(4) an A_8-group: a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group;

(5) an A_7"-group: a C2-C10 alkenyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2-B_1-R_4'-group (R_2, B_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_4-R_4'-group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_1-R_4'-group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a (b)-R_4'-group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)-R_4'-group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a NO_2-R_4-group (R_4 is as defined above) or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);

(i) a D_4 group: a hydroxyl group or an A_1-O-group [A_1 represents a R_3-$(CHR_0)_m$-$(B_2$-$B_3)_m$'-group {R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above), or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a C2-C1 alkynyl group, R_0 represents a hydrogen atom, C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, m is as defined above, B_2 represents a single bond, an oxy group, a thio group or a $-N((O)_nR_1$'-group (R_1' is as defined above, and n represents 0 or 1), B_3 is as defined above, and m' represents 0 or 1 and, when B_3 is a sulfonyl group, m is 0, and R_3 is not a hydrogen atom}];

(ii) a D_5 group: O=C(R_3) group (R_3 is as defined above), an A_1-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group (A_1, n and R_3 are as defined above), an R_1-B_0-CO-R_4-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group [R_1, R_4, n and R_3 are as defined above, and B_0 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a $-N((O)_mR_1$')-group (R_1' and m are as defined above)], a D_2-R_4-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group (D_2, R_4, n and R_3 are as defined above) or a R_1A_1N-N=C(R_3)group (R_1, A_1 and R_3 are as defined above);

(iii) a D_1 group: a (R_1-$(O)_k$-)A_1N-$(O)_k$'-group (R_1 and A_1 are as defined above, and k and k' are the same or different, and represent 0 or 1);

(iv) a D_2 group: a cyano group, a R_1R_1'NC(=N-$(O)_n$-A_1-group (R_1, R_1', n and A_1 are as defined above), an A_1N=C(-OR_2)-group (A_1 and R_2 are as defined above) or a NH_2-CS-group.

(v) a D_3 group: a nitro group or a R_1OSO_2-group (R_1 is as defined above);

(vi) an A_2 group:

1) an A_3-B_4-group

[A_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a R_a-$(R_4)_m$-group (R_a represents a phenyl group, a pyridyl group, a furyl group or a thienyl group, optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group or a nitro group, and R_4 and m are as defined above), or a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a (b)-R_4-group ((b) and R_4 are as defined above), a (c)-R_4-group ((c) and R_4 are as defined above), a R_2-B_1-R_4-group (R_2, B_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_4-R_4-group (D_4 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_5-group (D_5 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4-group (D_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_2-group (D_2 is as defined above), a D_3-R_4-group (D_3 and R_4 are as defined above) or an A_4-SO_2-R_4-group {A_4 is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above},

B_4 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a $-N((O)_mR_1)$-group (R_1 and m are as defined above), provided that when B_4 is a thio group, A_3 is not a hydrogen atom];

2) a R_1-B_4-CO-R_4-B_4'-group (R_1, B_4 and R_4 are as defined above, B_4' is the same as or different from B_4, and has the same meaning as that of B_4 provided that when B_4 is a thio group, R_2 is not a hydrogen atom) or a D_2-R_4-B_4-group (D_2, R_4 and B_4 are as defined above);

3) a R_2-SO_2-NR_1-group (R_2 is as defined above provided that a hydrogen atom is excluded, and R_1 is as defined above),

4) a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above);

5) a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above); or

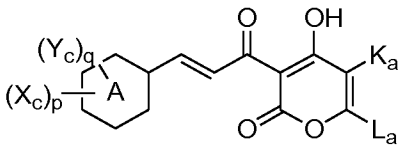
6) a R_1A_1N-NR_1'-group (R_1, A_1 and R_1' are as defined above);

IV. K_a represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkyl group, L_a represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a M_b-group (M_b is as defined above), or K_a and L_a may form a C1-C10 alkylene group, provided that when an A ring is a benzene ring, p is 2, 3 or 4 in the case that q is 0; and

the "as defined above" in the same symbol between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the

same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

6. (Withdrawn) A 2H-pyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (VI):



(VI)

[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_c)_p$, X_c is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a hydroxyl group, or a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a R'-$S(O)_l$-group (R' represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, and l represents 0, 1 or 2), or a cyano group, or a C1-C10 alkoxycarbonyl group, or an aminocarbonyl group, or a $(R')_2N$-group (R' is as defined above), or a R'CO-NH-group (R' is as defined above), or a nitro group, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (R represents a C1-C10 haloalkyl group, and B represents an oxy group or a thio group), p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_c's are the same or different;

III. In $(Y_c)_q$, Y_c is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_3 group or Y_3 group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_c's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_c's constitute a group of a Z_3 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

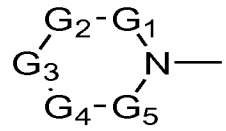
(1) a X_3 group:

a M_a-group [M_a represents a R_b-group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a R_c-B_a-R_d-group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d-group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-R_d-group (R_e represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-O-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined

above), a R_eO-CO-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_eR_e'N-R_d-group (R_e and R_e' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-NR_e'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_bO-CO-N(R_e)-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-NR_e"-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_e" are the same or different, R_e and R_e' are as defined above, R_e" has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-C(=NR_e")-NR_e'''-R_d-group (R_e, R_e', R_e" and R_e''' are the same or different, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above, R_e''' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_b-SO_2-NR_e-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-SO_2-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that when A represents a benzene ring, then a hydroxy group, or a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a R'-S(O)$_l$-group (R' represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, and l represents 0, 1 or 2), or a cyano group, or a C1-C10 alkoxycarbonyl group, or an aminocarbonyl group, or a (R')$_2$N-group (R' is as defined above), or a R'CO-NH-group (R' is as defined above), or a nitro group or a C1-C10 alkoxy group is excluded;

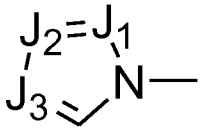
(2) a Y_3 group:

a M_b-R_d-group [M_b represents a M_c-group {M_c represents a M_d-R_d'-group {M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or

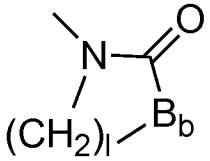
(b) 

a (b)-group {in (b), G_1, G_2, G_4 and G_5 represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G_3 represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a –NR_1-group {R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a

C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B_1 represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group) or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$-group (R_1 is as defined above)},

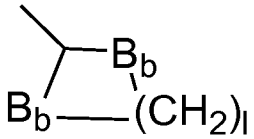
(c) 

a (c)-group (in (c), J_1, J_2 and J_3 are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),

(d) 

a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group)

or

(e) 

an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e"-group (M_c, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above), a M_c-SO_2-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a M_cR_eN-SO_2-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above], provided that when P is 0, then a morpholino group, or a

phenyl group, or a phenoxy group substituted with a trifluoromethyl group, or a phenoxy group substituted with single or plural halogen atoms is excluded;

(3) a Z_3 group:

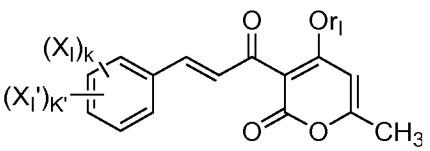
a –N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a –Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b"-group (Y_b and Y_b" are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a –Y_c-O-Y_c'-O-group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and represent a C1-C10 alkylene group),

provided that when p is 0, then Y_c is not fused with an A ring to form a benzo[1,3]dioxol ring;

IV. K_a represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkyl group, L_a represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a M_b-group (M_b is as defined above), or K_a and L_a may form a C1-C10 alkylene group, provided that when an A ring is a benzene ring, then q is not 0 and, when an A ring is a benzene ring or a pyridine ring, then p and q are not 0 at the same time, in either case; and

the "as defined above" in the same symbol between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above, and between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected range may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

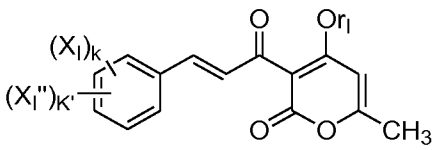
7. (Withdrawn) A I type collagen gene transcription suppressing composition, which comprises a 2H-pyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (VII):



(VII)

[wherein X_I represents a C2-C4 alkenyl group, a C2-C4 alkynyl group, a R_I-$S(O)_l$-group (R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), a cyano group, a carboxy group, a C1-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, a $(R_I)_2N$-group (R_I is as defined above), a R_I-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), a R_IO-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), a R_INH-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above) or a $(R_I')_2N$-CO-group (R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), X_1' represents a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a nitro group, or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), k represents 0 or 1, k' represents an integer of 0 to 4, when k is 0, k' is an integer of 2 to 4 and, when k' is 2 to 4, X_I''s may be different, and r_I is a C1-C4 alkyl group, a C2-C4 alkenyl group or a C2-C4 alkynyl group],
and a inert carrier;

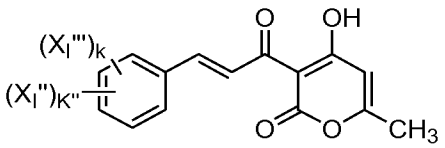
8. (Withdrawn) A 2H-pyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (VIII):



(VIII)

[wherein X_I represents a C2-C4 alkenyl group, a C2-C4 alkynyl group, a R_I-$S(O)_l$-group (R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), a cyano group, a carboxy group, a C1-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, a $(R_I)_2N$-group (R_I is as defined above), a R_I-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), a R_IO-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), a R_INH-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above) or $(R_I')_2N$-CO-group (R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), X_I'' represents a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a nitro group, or a C2-C4 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), k represents 0 or 1, k' represents an integer of 0 to 4, when k is 0, k' is an integer of 2 to 4 and, when k' is 2 to 4, X_I'''s may be different, and r_I is a C1-C4 alkyl group, a C2-C4 alkenyl group or a C2-C4 alkynyl group];

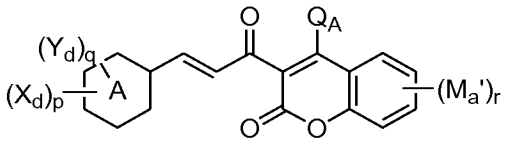
9. (Withdrawn) A 2H-pyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (IX):



(IX)

[wherein X_I''' represents a C2-C4 alkenyl group, a C2-C4 alkynyl group, a carboxy group, a C2-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group or a $(R_{II})_2N$-group (R_{II} represents a C2-C4 alkyl group), X_I'' represents a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a nitro group, or a C2-C4 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), k represents 0 or 1, k" represents an integer of 0 to 2, when k is 0, k" is 2 and, when k" is 2, X'"s are different];

10. (Withdrawn) A I type collagen gene transcription suppressing composition, which comprises a 2H-1-benzopyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (X):



(X)

[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_d)_p$, X_d is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a methoxy group or an ethoxy group, p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_d's are the same or different;

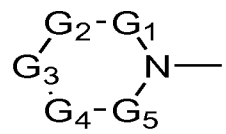
III. In $(Y_d)_q$, Y_d is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_4 group or Y_4 group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_d's are the same or different and, q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_d's constitute a group of a Z_4 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

(1) a X_4 group:

a M_a-group [M_a represents a R_b-group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen, atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxyl group, a R_c-B_a-R_d-group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d-group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-R_d-group (R_e represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-O-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eO-CO-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_eR_e'N-R_d-group (R_e and R_e' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-NR_e'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_bO-CO-N(R_e)-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-NR_e"-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_e" are the same or different, R_e and R_e' are as defined above, R_e" has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-C(=NR_e")-NR_e'''-R_d-group (R_e, R_e', R_e" and R_e''' are the same or different, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above, R_e''' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_b-SO_2-NR_e-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-SO_2-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that when A represents a benzene ring, then a methoxy group and an ethoxy group are excluded;

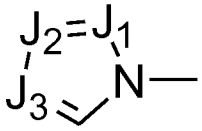
(2) a Y_4 group:

a M_b-R_d-group [M_b represents a M_c-group {M_c represents a M_d-R_d'-group {M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or

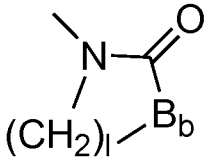
(b) 

a (b)-group {in (b), G_1, G_2, G_4 and G_5 represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G_3 represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group

optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$-group {R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B_1 represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group} or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$-group (R_1 is as defined above)},

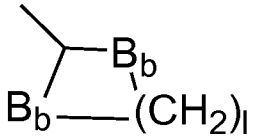
(c) 

a (c)-group (in (c), J_1, J_2 and J_3 are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),

(d) 

a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group)

or

(e) 

an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e"-group (M_c, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above), a M_c-SO_2-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a M_cR_eN-SO_2-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z_4 group:

a –N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a –Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b"-group (Y_b and Y_b" are the same or different, a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a –Y_c-O-Y_c'-O-group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and represent a C1-C10 alkylene group);

IV. Q_A represents a hydroxyl group, a (b) group ((b) is as defined above), an A_9-B_6-B_c-group [A_9 represents a substituent of the following A_7 group or A_8 group, B_6 represents a carbonyl group or a thiocarbonyl group, and B_c represents an oxy group or a –N($(O)_mR_1$)-group (m represents 0 or 1, and R_1 is as defined above), provided that when A_9 is a hydrogen atom, then B_c is not a sulfonyl group], an A_7"-SO_2-B_c-group (A_7" represents a substituent of the following A_7" group, and B_c is as defined above), an A_8-SO_2-B_c-group (A_8 represents a substituent of the following A_8 group, and B_c is as defined above, provided that A_8 is not a hydrogen atom), a R_1R_1'N-SO_2-B_c-group (R_1 is as defined above, R_1' is the same as or different from R_1, and has the same meaning as that of R_1, and B_c is as defined above), a (b)-SO_2-B_c-group ((b) and B_c are as defined above), an A_9'-B_c-group (A_9' represents a substituent of the following A_7' group or A_8' group, and B_c is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-B_c-group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, R_4 represents a C1-C10 alkylene group, and B_c is as defined above), a M_c-B_3-B_c-group (B_3 represents a carbonyl group, a thiocarbonyl group or a sulfonyl group, and M_c and B_c are as defined above) or a M_c-B_c-group (M_c and B_c are as defined above);

(1) an A_7 group:

a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C2-C10 alkynyl group, a C3-C10 haloalkynyl group, a R_2-B_1-R_4-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_4-R_4-group (D_4 represents a substituent of the following D_4 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4-group {D_1 represents a substituent of the following D_1 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, a (b)-R_4-group ((b) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a (c)-R_4-group ((c) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group {D_2 represents

a substituent of the following D_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, a D_3-R_4-group {D_3 represents a substituent of the following D_3 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, an A_4-SO_2-R_4-group {A_4 represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or a R_1R_1'N-group (R_1 and R_1' are as defined above), and R_4 is as defined above} or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 represents a substituent of the following A_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above);

(2) an A_8 group: a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom;

(3) an A_7' group: a C3-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2-B_1-R_4'-group (R_2 and B_1 are as define above, and R_4' represents a C2-C4 alkylene group), a D_4-R_4'-group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_1-R_4'-group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a (b)-R_4'-group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)-R_4'-group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_3-R_4'-group (D_3 and R_4' are as defined above) or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);

(4) an A_8' group: a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group;

(5) an A_7" group: a C2-C10 alkenyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2-B_1-R_4'-group (R_2, B_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_4-R_4'-group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_1-R_4'-group (D_1 and D_4' are as defined above), a (b)-R_4'-group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)-R_4'-group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a NO_2-R_4-group (R_4 is as defined above) or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);

(i) a D_4 group: a hydroxy group or an A_1-O-group [A_1 represents a R_3-$(CHR_0)_m$-$(B_2$-$B_3)_m$'-group {R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above), or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or C2-C10 alkynyl group, R_0 represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, m is as defined above, B_2 represents a single bond, an oxy group, a thio group or a –$N((O)_mR_1$')-group (R_1' is as defined above, and n represents 0 or 1), B_3 is as defined above, m' represents 0 or 1 and, when B_3 is a sulfonyl group, then m is 0, and R_3 is not a hydrogen atom}];

(ii) a D_5 group: an O=C(R_3)-group (R_3 is as defined above), an A_1-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group (A_1, n and R_3 are as defined above), a R_1-B_0-CO-R_4-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group [R_1, R_4, n and R_3 are as

defined above, and B_0 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a –N((O)$_m$R$_1$')-group (R_1' and m are as defined above)], a D_2-R_4-(O)$_n$-N=C(R_3)-group (D_2, R_4, n and R_3 are as defined above) or a R_1A_1N-N=C(R_3)-group (R_1, A_1 and R_3 are as defined above);

(iii) a D_1 group: a (R_1-(O)$_k$-)A_1N-(O)$_k$'-group (R_1 and A_1 are as defined above, and k and k' are the same or different, and represent 0 or 1);

(iv) a D_2 group: a cyano group, a R_1R_1'NC(=N-(O)$_n$-A_1)-group (R_1, R_1', n and A_1 are as defined above), an A_1N=C(-OR_2)-group (A_1 and R_2 are as defined above) or a NH_2-CS-group;

(v) a D_3 group: a nitro group or a R_1OSO_2-group (R_1 is as defined above);

(vi) an A_2 group:

1) an A_3-B_4-group

[A_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a R_a-(R_4)$_m$-group (R_a represents a phenyl group, a pyridinyl group, a furyl group or a thienyl group, optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group or a nitro group, and R_4 and m are as defined above), or a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a (b)-R_4-group ((b) and R_4 are as defined above), a (c)-R_4-group ((c) and R_4 are as defined above), a R_2-B_1-R_4-group (R_2, B_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_4-R_4-group (D_4 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_5-group (D_5 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4-group (D_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_2-group (D_2 is as defined above), a D_3-R_4-group (D_3 and R_4 are as defined above) or an A_4-SO_2-R_4-group {A_4 is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above},

B_4 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a –N((O)$_m$R$_1$)-group (R_1 and m are as defined above), provided that when B_4 is a thio group, then A_3 is not a hydrogen atom];

2) a R_1-B_4-CO-R_4-B_4'-group (R_1, B_4 and R_4 are as defined above, B_4' is the same as or different from B_4, and has the same meaning as that of B_4, provided that when B_4 is a thio group, then R_2 is not a hydrogen atom) or a D_2-R_4-B_4-group (D_2, R_4 and B_4 are as defined above);

3) a R_2-SO_2-NR_1-group (R_2 is as defined above, provided that a hydrogen atom is excluded, and R_1 is as defined above),

4) a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above);

5) a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or

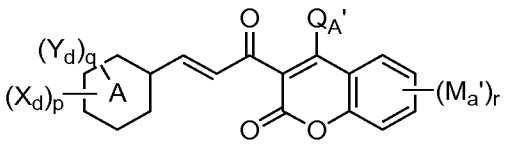
6) a R_1A_1N-NR_1'-group (R_1, A_1 and R_1' are as defined above);

V. M_a' is the same as or different from M_a, and has the same meaning as that of M_a, and r represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, provided that when an A ring is a benzene ring, in case that q and r are 0, then p is 2, 2, 3 or 4; and

the "as defined above" in the same symbol between a plurality of substituent indicates that the plurality of the substituents independently represent the same meaning as that of described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of the selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

and an inert carrier;

11. (Withdrawn) A 2H-1-benzopyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (XI):



(XI)

[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_d)_p$, X_d is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a methoxy group or an ethoxy group, p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_d's are the same or different;

III. In $(Y_d)_q$, Y_d is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_4 group or Y_4 group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_d's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_d's constitute a group of a Z_4 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

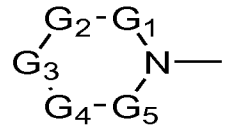
(1) a X_4 group:

a M_a-group [M_a represents a R_b-group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a R_c-B_a-R_d-group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d-group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-R_d-

group (R_e represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-O-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eO-CO-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_eR_e'N-R_d-group (R_e and R_e' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-NR_e'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_bO-CO-N(R_e)-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-NR_e"-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_e" are the same or different, R_e and R_e' are as defined above, R_e" has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-C(=NR_e")-NR_e'''-R_d-group (R_e, R_e', R_e" and R_e''' are the same or different, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above, R_e''' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_b-SO_2-NR_e-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-SO_2-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that when A represents a benzene ring, then a methoxy group and an ethoxy group are excluded;

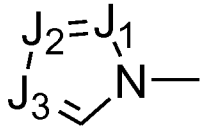
(2) Y_4 group:

a M_b-R_d-group [M_b represents a M_c-group {M_c represents a M_d-R_d'-group {M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or

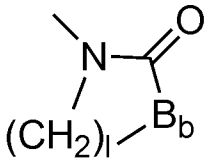
(b) 

a (b)-group {in (b), G_1, G_2, G_4 and G_5 represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G_3 represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a –NR_1-group {R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B_1 represents an oxy group, a thio group, sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10

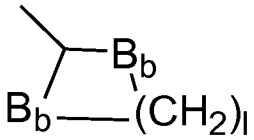
alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$-group (R_1 is as defined above)},

(c) 

a (c)-group (in (c), J_1, J_2, and J_3 are the same or different and, represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),

(d) 

a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group) or

(e) 

an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e"-group (M_c, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above), a M_c-SO_2-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a M_cR_eN-SO_2-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z_4 group:

a $-N=C(Y_a)-Y_a$'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a $-Y_b$-Y_b'-Y_b"-group (Y_b and Y_b" are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy

group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a $-Y_c$-O-Y_c'-O-group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and a C1-C10 alkylene group);

IV. Q_A' represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), an A_9-B_6-BC-group [A_9 represents a substituent of the following A_7 group or A_8 group, B_6 represents a carbonyl group or a thiocarbonyl group, B_c represents an oxy group or a $-N((O)_mR_1)$-group (m represents 0 or 1, and R_1 is as defined above), provided that when A_9 is a hydrogen atom, then B_c is not a sulfonyl group], an A_7"-SO_2-B_c-group (A_7" represents a substituent of the following A_7" group, and B_c is as defined above), an A_8-SO_2-B_c-group (A_8 represents a substituent of the following A_8 group, and B_c is as defined above, provided that A_8 is not a hydrogen atom), a R_1R_1'N-SO_2-B_c-group (R_1 is as defined above, R_1' is the same as or different from R_1, and has the same meaning as that of R_1, and B_c is as defined above), a (b)-SO_2-B_c-group ((b) and B_c are as defined above), an A_9'-B_c-group (A_9' represents a substituent of the following A_7' group or A_8' group, and B_c is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-B_c-group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, R_4 represents a C1-C10 alkylene group, and B_c is as defined above), a M_c-B_3-B_c-group (B_3 represents a carbonyl group, a thiocarbonyl group or a sulfonyl group, and M_c and B_c are as defined above) or a M_c-B_c-group (M_c and B_c are as defined above);

(1) an A_7 group :

a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C2-C10 alkynyl group, a C3-C10 haloalkynyl group, a R_2-B_1-R_4-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_4-R_4-group (D_4 represents a substituent of the following D_4 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4-group {D_1 represents a substituent of the following D_1 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, a (b)-R_4-group ((b) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a (c)-R_4-group ((c) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group {D_2 represents a substituent of the following D_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, a D_3-R_4-group {D_3 represents a substituent of the following D_3 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, an A_4-SO_2-R_4-group {A_4 represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or a R_1R_1'N-group (R_1 and R_1' are as defined above), and R_4 is as defined above} or an

A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 represents a substituent of the following A_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above);

(2) an A_8 group: a hydrogen atom, or C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom;

(3) an A_7' group: a C3-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2-B_1-R_4'-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4' represents a C2-C10 alkylene group), a D_4-R_4' group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_1-R_4'-group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a (b)-R_4'-group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)-R_4'-group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_3-R_4'-group (D_3 and R_4' are as defined above) or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);

(4) an A_9' group: a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group;

(5) an A_7" group: a C2-C10 alkenyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2-B_1-R_4'-group (R_2, B_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_4-R_4'-group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_1-R_4'-group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a (b)-R_4'-group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)-R_4'-group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a NO_2-R_4-group (R_4 is as defined above) or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);

(i) a D_4 group: a hydroxy group or an A_1-O-group [A_1 represents a R_3-$(CHR_0)_m$-$(B_2$-$B_3)_m$'-group {R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above), or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a C2-C10 alkynyl group, R_0 represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10haloalkyl group, m is as defined above, B_2 represents a single bond, an oxy group, a thio group or a –$N((O)_nR_1$')-group (R_1' is as defined above, and n represents 0 or 1), B_3 is as defined above, m' represents 0 or 1 and, when B_3 is a sulfonyl group, then m is 0, and R_3 is not a hydrogen atom}];

(ii) a D_5 group: an O=C(R_3)-group (R_3 is as defined above), an A_1-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group (A_1, n and R_3 are as defined above), a R_1-B_0-CO-R_4-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group [R_1, R_4, n and R_3 are as defined above, and B_0 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a –$N((O)_mR_1$')-group (R_1' and m are as defined above)], a D_2-R_4-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group (D_2, R_4, n and R_3 are as defined above) or a R_1A_1N-N=C(R_3)-group (R_1, A_1 and R_3 are as defined above);

(iii) a D_1 group: a (R)-$(O)_k$)A_1N-$(O)_k$'-group (R_1 and A_1 are as defined above, and k and k' are the same or different, and represent 0 or 1);

(iv) a D_2 group: a cyano group, a R_1R_1'NC(=N-$(O)_n$-A_1)-group (R_1, R_1', n and A_1 are as defined above), an A_1N=C-(OR_2)-group (A_1 and R_2 are as defined above) or a NH_2-CS-group;

(v) a D_3 group: a nitro group or a R_1OSO_2-group (R_1 is as defined above);

(vi) an A_2 group:

1) an A_3-B_4-group

[A_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a R_a-$(R_4)_m$-group (R_a represents a phenyl group, a pyridyl group, a furyl group or a thienyl group, optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group or a nitro group, and R_4 and m are as defined above), or a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a (b)-R_4-group ((b) and R_4 are as defined above), a (c)-R_4-group ((c) and R_4 are as defined above), a R_2-B_1-R_4-group (R_2, B_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_4-R_4-group (D_4 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_5-group (D_5 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4-group (D_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_2-group (D_2 is as defined above), a D_3-R_4-group (D_3 and R_4 are as defined above) or an A_4-SO_2-R_4-group {A_4 is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above},

B_4 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a –N($(O)_mR_1$)-group (R_1 and m are as defined above), provided that when B_4 is a thio group, A_3 is not a hydrogen atom];

2) a R_1-B_4-CO-R_4-B_4'-group (R_1, B_4 and R_4 are as defined above, B_4' is the same as or different from B_4, and has the same meaning as that of B_4, provided that when B_4 is a thio group, R_2 is not a hydrogen atom), or a D_2-R_4-B_4-group (D_2, R_4 and B_4 are as defined above);

3) a R_2-SO_2-NR_1-group (R_2 is as defined above, provided that a hydrogen atom is excluded, and R_1 is as defined above);

4) a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above);

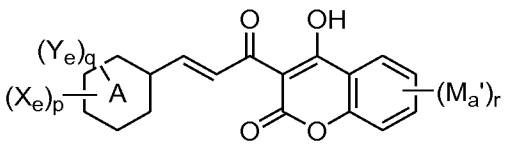
5) a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or

6) a R_1A_1N-NR_1'-group (R_1, A_1 and R_1' are as defined above);

V. M_a' is the same as or different from M_a, and has the same meaning as that of M_a, and r represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, provided that when an A ring is a benzene ring, in case that q is 0, then p is 2, 3 or 4; and

the "as defined above" between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

12. (Withdrawn) A 2H-1-benzopyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (XII):



(XII)

[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_e)_p$, X_e represents a hydroxy group, a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a R'-S(O)l-group (R' represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, and l represents 0, 1 or 2), a cyano group, a HOCO-CH=CH-group, a $(R')_2N$-group (R' is as defined above), a R' CO-NH-group (R' is as defined above), a nitro group or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_d's are the same or different;

III. In $(Y_e)_q$, Y_e is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_5 group or Y_5 group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_e's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_e's constitute a group of a Z_5 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

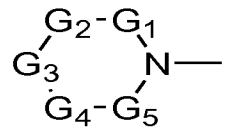
(1) a X_5 group:

a M_a-group [M_a represents a R_b-group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxyl group, a R_c-B_a-R_d-group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d-group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-R_d-group (R_d represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-O-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined

above), a R_eO-CO-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_eR_e'N-R_d-group (R_e and R_e' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-NR_e'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_bO-CO-N(R_e)-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-NR_e"-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_e" are the same or different, R_e and R_e' are as defined above, R_e" has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-C(=NR_e")-NR_e"'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e', R_e" and R_e"' are the same or different, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above, R_e"' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_b-SO_2-NR_e-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-SO_2-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that when A represents a benzene ring, then a X_e-group (X_e is as defined above) is excluded;

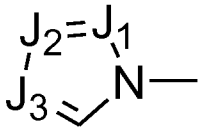
(2) a Y_5 group:

a M_b-R_d-group [M_b represents a M_c-group {M_c represents a M_d-R_d'-group {M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or

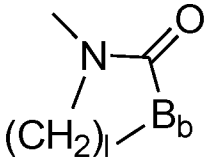
(b) 

a (b)-group {in (b), G_1, G_2, G_4 and G_5 represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G_3 represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a –NR_1-group {R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B_1 represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group,

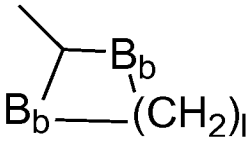
an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$-group (R_1 is as defined above)},

(c) 

a (c)-group (in (c), J_1, J_2 and J_3 are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),

(d) 

a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group) or

(e) 

an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e-group (M_c, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above), a M_c-SO_2-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a M_cR_eN-SO_2-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z_5 group:

a –N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a –Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b"-group (Y_b and Y_b" are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a

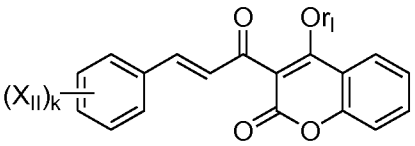
halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a $-Y_c$-O-Y_c'-O- group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and represent a C1-C10 alkylene group),

provided that when p is 0, then Y_e is not fused with an A ring to form a benzo[1,3]dioxol ring;

IV. M_a' is the same as or different from M_a, and has the same meaning as that of M_a, and r represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, provided that when an A ring is a benzene ring, then q is not 0; and

the "as defined above" in the same symbol between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

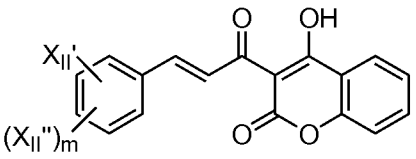
13. (Withdrawn) A 2H-1-benzopyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (XIII):



(XIII)

[wherein X_{II} represents a hydrogen atom, or a hydroxyl group, or a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a C2-C4 alkenyl group, or a C2-C4 alkynyl group, or a C3-C4 alkoxy group, or a R_I-$S(O)_l$-group (R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), or a nitro group, or a cyano group, or a carboxy group, or a C1-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, or a $(R_I)_2N$-group (R_I is as defined above), or a R_I-CO-N_I-group (R_I is as defined above), or a R_IO-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), or a R_INH-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), or a $(R_I')_2N$-CO-group (R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), k represents an integer of 1 to 4 and, when k is an integer of 2 to 4, X_{II}'s may be different, and r_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, a C2-C4 alkenyl group or a C2-C4 alkynyl group];

14. (Withdrawn) A 2H-1-benzopyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (XIV):

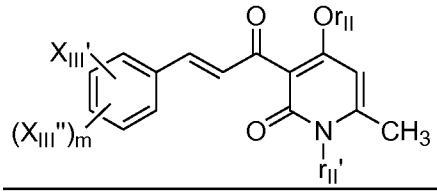


(XIV)

[wherein X_{II}' represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, a C2-C4 alkenyl group, a C2-C4 alkynyl group, a C3-C4 alkoxy group, a R_{II}-$S(O)_l$-group (R_{II} represents a C2-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), a cyano group, a carboxy group, a C_1-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, a $(R_{II})_2N$-group (R_{II} is as defined above), a R_I-CO-NH-group (R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group), a R_IO-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), a R_INH-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), a $(R_I')_2N$-CO-group (R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group) or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), X_{II}" represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C1-C4 alkyl group or a C3-C4 alkoxy group, m represents 1 or 2 and, when m is 2, X_{II}"s may be different];

15-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) A composition comprising a 2(1H)-pyridinone compound represented by the formula (XVIII):

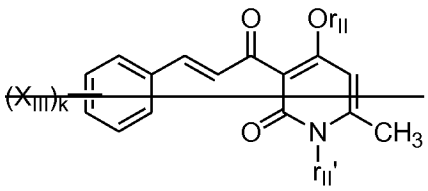


(XVIII)

wherein X_{III}' represents a C2-C4 alkyl group, or a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a C2-C4 alkenyl group, or a C2-C4 alkynyl group, or a C2-C4 alkoxy group, or a R_I-$S(O)_l$-group (wherein R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), or a cyano group, or a carboxy group, or a C1-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, a

$(R_{II})_2N$-group (wherein R_{II} represents a C2-C4 alkyl group), or a R_I-CO-NH-group (wherein R_I is as defined above), or a R_IO-CO-NH-group (wherein R_I is as defined above), or a R_INH-CO-NH-group (wherein R_I is as defined above), or a $(R_I')_2N$-CO-group (wherein R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), or a RB-group (wherein B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), X_{III}" represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C1-C4 alkyl group, or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, m represents 1 or 2, when m is 2, X_{III}"s may be different, and r_{II} and $r_{II'}$ are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group

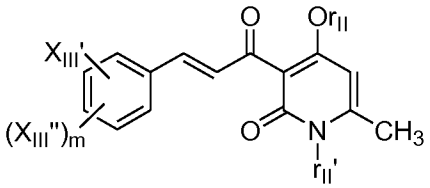
~~(XVII):~~



~~(XVII)~~

~~wherein XIII represents a hydrogen atom, or a hydroxy group, or a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a C2-C4 alkenyl group, or a C2-C4 alkynyl group, or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a R_1-$S(O)_l$-group (wherein R_1 represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), or a nitro group, or a cyano group, or a carboxy group, or a C1-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, or a $(R_I)_2N$-group (wherein R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group), or a R_I-CO-NH-group (wherein R_I is as defined above), or a R_IO-CO-NH-group (wherein R_I is as defined above), or a R_INH-CO-NH-group (wherein R_I is as defined above), or a $(R_I')_2N$-CO-group (wherein R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group) or a RB-group (wherein B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), K represents an integer of 1 to 4, when k is an integer of 2 to 4, X_{III}'s may be different, r_{II} and $r_{II'}$ are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group~~;and an inert carrier.

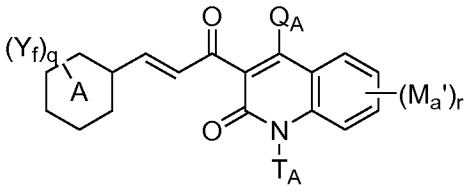
18. (Previously Presented) A 2(1H)-pyridinone compound represented by the formula (XVIII):



(XVIII)

wherein X_{III}' represents a C2-C4 alkyl group, or a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a C2-C4 alkenyl group, or a C2-C4 alkynyl group, or a C2-C4 alkoxy group, or a R_I-$S(O)_l$-group (wherein R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), or a cyano group, or a carboxy group, or a C1-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, a $(R_{II})_2N$-group (wherein R_{II} represents a C2-C4 alkyl group), or a R_I-CO-NH-group (wherein R_I is as defined above), or a R_IO-CO-NH-group (wherein R_I is as defined above), or a R_INH-CO-NH-group (wherein R_I is as defined above), or a $(R_I')_2N$-CO-group (wherein R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), or a RB-group (wherein B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), X_{III}" represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C1-C4 alkyl group, or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, m represents 1 or 2, when m is 2, X_{III}"s may be different, and r_{II} and $r_{II'}$ are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group.

19. (Withdrawn) A I type collagen gene transcription suppressing composition, which comprises a 2(1H)-quinolinone compound represented by the formula (XIX):



(XIX)

[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

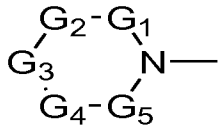
II. In $(Y_f)_q$, Y_f is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a group of the following X group or Y group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_f's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_f's constitute a group of a Z group, and may be fused with an A ring;

(1) a X group:

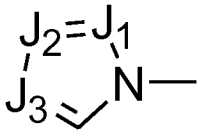
a M_a-group [M_a represents a R_b-group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxyl group, a R_c-B_a-R_d-group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d-group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-R_d-group (R_e represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-O-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eO-CO-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_eR_e'N-R_d-group (R_e and R_e' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-NR_e'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_bO-CO-N(R_e)-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-NR_e"-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_e" are the same or different, R_e and R_e' are as defined above, R_e" has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-C(=NR_e")-NR_e"'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e', R_e" and R_e" are the same or different, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above, R_e"' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_b-SO_2-NR_e-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-SO_2-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group];

(2) a Y group:

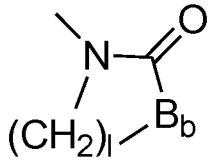
a M_b-R_d-group [M_b represents a M_c-group {M_c represents a M_d-R_d'-group {M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or

(b) 

a (b)-group {in (b), G_1, G_2, G_4 and G_5 represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G_3 represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$-group {R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B_1 represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$-group (R_1 is as defined above)},

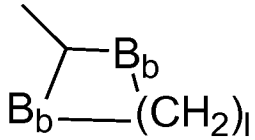
(c) 

a (c)-group (in (c), J_1, J_2 and J_3 are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),

(d) 

a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group)

or

(e) 

an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as

defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e"-group (M_c, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above), a M_c-SO_2-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a M_cR_eN-SO_2-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z group:

a –N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a –Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b"-group (Y_b and Y_b' are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a –Y_c-O-Y_c'-O-group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and represent a C1-C10 alkylene group);

III. Q_A represents a hydroxy group, a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), an A_9-B_6-B_c-group [A_9 represents a substituent of the following A_7 group or A_8 group, B_6 represents a carbonyl group or a thiocarbonyl group, and B_c represents an oxy group or a –N(($O)_mR_1$)-group (m represents 0 or 1, and R_1 is as defined above), provided that when A_9 is a hydrogen atom, then B_c is not a sulfonyl group], an A_7"-SO_2-B_c-group (A_7" represents a substituent of the following A_7" group, and B_c is as defined above), an A_8-SO_2-B_c-group (A_8 represents a substituent of the following A_8 group, and B_c is as defined above, provided that A_8 is not a hydrogen atom), a R_1R_1'N-SO_2-B_c-group (R_1 is as defined above, R_1' is the same as or different from R_1, and has the same meaning as that of R_1, and B_c is as defined above), a (b)-SO_2-B_c-group ((b) and B_c are as defined above), an A_9'-B_c-group (A_9' represents a substituent of the following A_7' group or A_8' group, and B_c is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-B_c-group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, R_4 represents a C1-C10 alkylene group, and B_c is as defined above), a M_c-B_3-B_c-group (B_3 represents a carbonyl group, a thiocarbonyl group or a sulfonyl group, and M_c and B_c are as defined above) or a M_c-B_c-group (M_c and B_c are as defined above);

(1) an A_7 group:

a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C2-C10 alkynyl group, a C3-C10 haloalkynyl group, a R_2-B_1-R_4-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_4-R_4-group (D_4 represents a substituent of the following D_4 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4-group {D_1 represents a substituent of the following D_1 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, a (b)-R_4-group ((b) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a (c)-R_4-group ((c) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group {D_2 represents a substituent of the following D_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, a D_3-R_4-group {D_3 represents a substituent of the following D_3 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, an A_4-SO_2-R_4-group {A_4 represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or a R_1R_1'N-group (R_1 and R_1' are as defined above), and R_4 is as defined above} or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 represents a substituent of the following A_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above);

(2) an A_8 group: a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom;

(3) an A_7' group: a C3-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2-B_1-R_4'-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4' represents a C2-C10 alkylene group), a D_4-R_4'-group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_1-R_4'-group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a (b)-R_4'-group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)-R_4'-group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_3-R_4'-group (D_3 and R_4' are as defined above) or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);

(4) an A_8' group: a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group;

(5) an A_7" group: a C2-C10 alkenyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2-B_1-R_4'-group (R_2, B_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_4-R_4'-group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_1- R_4'-group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a (b)-R_4'-group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)-R_4'-group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a NO_2-R_4-group (R_4 is as defined above) or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);

(i) a D_4 group: a hydroxy group or an A_1-O-group [A_1 represents a R_3-$(CHR_0)_m$-$(B_2$-$B_3)_m$'-group {R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above), or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a C2-C10 alkynyl group, R_0 represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, m is as defined above, B_2 represents a single bond, an oxy group, a thio group or a –N$((O)_nR_1')$-group (R_1' is as defined above, and n represents 0 or 1), B_3 is as defined above, m' represents 0 or 1 and, when B_3 is a sulfonyl group, then m is 0, and R_3 is not a hydrogen atom}];
(ii) a D_5 group: an O=C(R_3)-group (R_3 is as defined above), an A_1-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group (A_1, n and R_3 are as defined above), a R_1-B_0-CO-R_4-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group [R_1, R_4, n and R_3 are as defined above, and B_0 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a –N$((O)_mR_1')$-group (R_1' and m are as defined above)], a D_2-R_4-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group (D_2, R_4, n and R_3 are as defined above) or a R_1A_1N-N=C(R_3)-group (R_1, A_1 and R_3 are as defined above);
(iii) a D_1 group: a (R_1-$(O)_k$-)A_1N-$(O)_k$'-group (R_1 and A_1 are as defined above, and k and k' are the same or different, and represent 0 or 1);
(iv) a D_2 group: a cyano group, a R_1R_1'NC(=N-$(O)_n$-A_1)-group (R_1, R_1', n and A_1 are as defined above), an A_1N=C(-OR_2)-group (A_1 and R_2 are as defined above) or a NH_2-CS-group;
(v) a D_3 group: a nitro group or a R_1OSO_2-group (R_1 is as defined above);
(vi) an A_2 group:
1) an A_3-B_4-group
[A_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a R_a-$(R_4)_m$-group (R_a represents a phenyl group, a pyridyl group, a furyl group or a thienyl group, optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group or a nitro group, and R_4 and m are as defined above), or a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a (b)-R_4-group ((b) and R_4 are as defined above), a (c)-R_4-group ((c) and R_4 are as defined above), a R_2-B_1-R_4-group (R_2, B_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_4-R_4-group (D_4 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_5-group (D_5 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4-group (D_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_2-group (D_2 is as defined above), a D_3-R_4-group (D_3 and R_4 are as defined above) or an A_4-SO_2-R_4-group {A_4 is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above},

B_4 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a $-N((O)_mR_1)$-group (R_1 and m are as defined above), provided that when B_4 is a thio group, then A_3 is not a hydrogen atom];

2) a R_1-B_4-CO-R_4-B_4'-group (R_1, B_4 and R_4 are as defined above, B_4' is the same as or different from B_4, and has the same meaning as that of B_4, provided that when B_4 is a thio group, then R_2 is not a hydrogen atom) or a D_2-R_4-B_4-group (D_2, R_4 and B_4 are as defined above);

3) a R_2-SO_2-NR_1-group (R_2 is as defined above, provided that a hydrogen atom is excluded, and R_1 is as defined above);

4) a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above);

5) a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or

6) a R_1A_1N-NR_1'-group (R_1, A_1 and R_1' are as defined above);

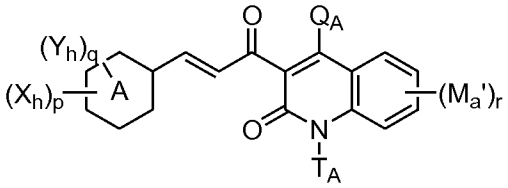
IV. T_A represents a hydrogen atom, an A_9'-group (A_9' is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 and R_4 are as defined above) or a M_c-group (M_c is as defined above);

V. M_a' is the same as or different from M_a, and has the same meaning as that of M_a, and r represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

the "as defined above" in the same symbol between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

and an inert carrier;

20. (Withdrawn) A 2(1H)-pyridinone compound represented by the formula (XX):



(XX)

[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_h)_p$, X_h represents a hydroxy group, a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxycarbonyl group, a $(R')_2N$-group (R' represents a C1-C10 alkyl group), a nitro group or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_h's are the same or different, provided that when p is 2 or more, and in case that X_h is selected from a hydroxy group, a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group and a C1-C10 alkoxy group, then X_h's do not represent the same group or atom at the same time;

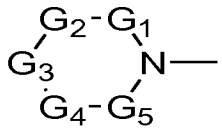
III. In $(Y_h)_q$, Y_h is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_7 group or Y_7 group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_h's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_h's constitute a group of a Z_7 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

(1) a X_7 group:

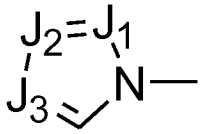
a M_a-group [M_a represents a R_b-group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a R_c-B_a-R_d-group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d-group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-R_d-group (R_e represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-O-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eO-CO-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_eR_e'N-R_d-group (R_e and R_e' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-NR_e'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_bO-CO-N(R_e)-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-NR_e''-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_e'' are the same or different, R_e and R_e' are as defined above, R_e'' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_eR_e''N-C(=NR_e'')-NR_e'''-R_d-group (R_e, R_e', R_e'' and R_e''' are the same or different, R_e, R_e' and R_e'' are as defined above, R_e''' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_b-SO_2-NR_e-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-SO_2-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that when A represents a benzene ring, then a X_h-group (X_h is as defined above) is excluded;

(2) a Y_7 group:

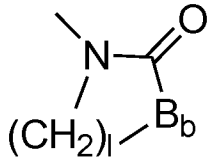
a M_b-R_d-group [M_b represents a M_c-group {M_c represents a M_d-R_d'-group {M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or

(b) 

a (b)-group {in (b), G_1, G_2, G_4 and G_5 represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G_3 represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$-group {R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B_1 represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$-group (R_1 is as defined above)},

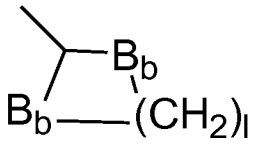
(c) 

a (c)-group (in (c), J_1, J_2 and J_3 are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),

(d) 

a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group)

or

(e) 

an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e"-group (M_c, R_e, R_e' and R_e" are as defined above), a M_c-SO_2-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a M_cR_eN-SO_2-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z_7 group:

a –N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a –Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b"-group (Y_b and Y_b" are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a –Y_c-O-Y_c'-O-group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, or a C1-C10 alkylene group), provided that when p is 0, then Y_h does not fused with an A ring to form a benzo[1,3]dioxol ring;

IV. Q_A represents a hydroxy group, a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), an A_9-B_6-B_c-group [A_9 represents a substituent of the following A_7 group or A_8 group, B_6 represents a carbonyl group or a thiocarbonyl group, and B_c represents an oxy group or a –N((O)$_m$$R_1$-group (m represents 0 or 1, and R_1 is as defined above), provided that when A_9 is a hydrogen atom, then B_c is not a sulfonyl group], an A_7"-SO_2-B_c-group (A_7" represents a substituent of the following A_7" group, and B_c is as defined above), an A_8-SO_2-B_c-group (A_8 represents a substituent of the following A_8 group, and B_c is as defined above, provided that A_8 is not a hydrogen atom), a R_1R_1'N-SO_2-Bc-group (R_1 is as defined above, R_1' is the same as or different from R_1, and has the same meaning as that

of R_1, and B_c is as defined above), a (b)-SO_2-B_c-group ((b) and B_c are as defined above), an A_9'-B_c-group (A_9' represents a substituent of the following A_7' group or A_8' group, and B_c is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-B_c-group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, R_4 represents a C1-C10 alkylene group, and B_c is as defined above), a M_c-B_3-B_c-group (B_3 represents a carbonyl group, a thiocarbonyl group or a sulfonyl group, and M_c and B_c are as defined above) or a M_c-B_c-group (M_c and B_c are as defined above);

(1) an A_7 group:

a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C2-C10 alkynyl group, a C3-C10 haloalkynyl group, a R_2-B_1-R_4-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_4-R_4-group (D_4 represents a substituent of the following D_4 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4-group {D_1 represents a substituent of the following D_1 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, a (b)-R_4-group ((b) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a (c)-R_4-group ((c) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group {D_2 represents a substituent of the following D_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, a D_3-R_4-group {D_3 represents a substituent of the following D_3 group, and R_4 is as defined above}, an A_4-SO_2-R_4-group {A_4 represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or a R_1R_1'-N-group (R_1 and R_1' are as defined above), and R_4 is as defined above} or an A_2-CO_2-R_4-group (A_2 represents a substituent of the following A_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above);

(2) an A_8 group: a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom;

(3) an A_7' group: a C3-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2-B_1-R_4'-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4' represents a C2-C10 alkylene group), a D_4-R_4'-group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_1-R_4'-group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a (b)-R_4'-group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)-R_4'-group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_3-R_4'-group (D_3 and R_4' are as defined above) or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);

(4) an A_8' group: a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group;

(5) an A_7" group: a C2-C10 alkenyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2-B_1-R_4'-group

(R_2, B_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_4-R_4'-group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_1-R_4'-group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a (b)-R_4'-group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)-R_4'-group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2-R_4-group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a NO_2-R_4-group (R_4 is as defined above) or an A_2-CO-R_4-group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);

(i) a D_4 group: a hydroxy group or an A_1-O-group [A_1 represents a R_3-$(CHR_0)_m$-$(B_2$-$B_3)_m$'-group {R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1-group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above), or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a C2-C10 alkynyl group, R_0 represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, m is as defined above, B_2 represents a single bond, an oxy group, a thio group or a –N$((O)_nR_1$')-group (R_1' is as defined above, and n represents 0 or 1), B_3 is as defined above, m' represents 0 or 1 and, when B_3 is a sulfonyl group, then m is 0, and R_3 is not a hydrogen atom}];

(ii) a D_5 group: an O=C(R_3)-group (R_3 is as defined above), an A_1-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group (A_1, N and R_3 are as defined above), a R_1-B_0-CO-R_4-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group [R_1, R_4, n and R_3 are as defined above, and B_0 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a –N$((O)_mR_1$')-group (R_1' and m are as defined above)], a D_2-R_4-$(O)_n$-N=C(R_3)-group (D_2, R_4, n and R_3 are as defined above) or a R_1A_1N-N=C(R_3)-group (R_1, A_1 and R_3 are as defined above);

(iii) a D_1 group: a $(R_1$-$O)_k$-)A_1N-$(O)_k$'-group (R_1 and A_1 are as defined above, and k and k' are the same or different, and represent 0 or 1);

(iv) a D_2 group: a cyano group, a R_1R_1'NC(=N-$(O)_n$-A_1-group (R_1, R_1', N and A_1 are as defined above), an A_1N=C(-OR_2)-group (A_1 and R_2 are as defined above) or a NH_2-CS-group;

(v) a D_3 group: a nitro group or a R_1OSO_2-group (R_1 is as defined above);

(vi) an A_2 group:

1) an A_3-B_4-group

[A_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a R_a-$(R_4)_m$-group (R_a represents a phenyl group, a pyridyl group, a furyl group or a thienyl group, optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group or a nitro group, and R_4 and m are as defined above), or a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a (b)-R_4-group ((b) and R_4 are as defined above), a (c)-R_4-group ((c) and R_4 are as defined above), a R_2-B_1-R_4-group (R_2, B_1 and R_4 are as defined above),

a D_4-R_4-group (D_4 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_5-group (D_5 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4-group (D_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_2-group (D_2 is as defined above), a D_3-R_4-group (D_3 and R_4 are as defined above) or an A_4-SO_2-R_4-group {A_4 is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above},

B_4 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a $-N((O)_mR_1)$-group (R_1 and m are as defined above), provide that when A_4 is a thio group, then A_3 is not a hydrogen atom];

2) a R_1-B_4-CO-R_4-B_4'-group (R_1, B_4 and R_4 are as defined above, B_4' is the same as or different from B_4, and has the same meaning as B_4, provided that when B_4 is a thio group, then R_2 is not a hydrogen atom) or a D_2-R_4-B_4-group (D_2, R_4 and B_4 are as defined above);

3) a R_2-SO_2-NR_1-group (R_2 is as defined above, provided that a hydrogen atom is excluded, and R_1 is as defined above);

4) a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above);

5) a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or

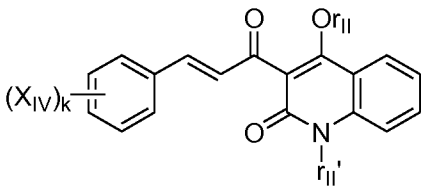
6) a R_1A_1N-NR_1'-group (R_1, A_1 and R_1' are as defined above);

V. T_A represents a hydrogen atom, an A_9'-group (A_9' is as defined above), a D_5-R_4-group (D_5 and R_4 are as defined above) or a M_c-group (M_c is as defined above);

VI. M_a' is the same as or different from M_a, and has the same meaning as that of M_a, and r represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, provided that when an A ring is a benzene ring, then q is not 0 and, when an A ring is a benzene ring or a pyridine ring, then p and q are not 0 at the same time, in either case; and

the "as defined above" in the same symbol between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

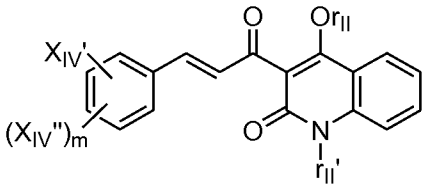
21. (Withdrawn) A I type collagen gene transcription suppressing composition, which comprises a 2(1H)-quinolinone compound represented by the formula (XXI):



(XXI)

[wherein X_{IV} represents a hydrogen atom, or a hydroxy group, or a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a C2-C4 alkenyl group, or a C2-C4 alkynyl group, or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a R_I-$S(O)_l$-group (R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), or a nitro group, or a cyano group, or a carboxy group, or a C1-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, or a $(R_I)_2N$-group (R_I is as defined above), or a R_I-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), or a R_I-O-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), or a R_INH-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), or a $(R_I')_2N$-CO-group (R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), k represents an integer of 1 to 4 and, when k is an integer of 2 to 4, X_{IV}'s may be different, and r_{II} and r_{II}' are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group];
and an inert carrier;

22. (Withdrawn) A 2(1H)-quinolinone compound represented by the formula (XXII):



(XXII)

[wherein X_{IV}' represents a C2-C4 alkyl group, or a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a C2-C4 alkenyl group, or a C2-C4 alkynyl group, or a C2-C4 alkoxy group, or a R_I-$S(O)_l$-group (R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), or a cyano group, or a carboxy group, or a C2-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, or a $(R_{II})_2N$-group (R_{II} represents a C2-C4 alkyl group), or a R_I-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), or a R_IO-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), or a R_INH-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), or a $(R_I')_2N$-CO-group (R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), X_{IV}" represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C1-C4 alkyl group or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, m represents 1 or 2 and, when m is 2, X_{IV}"'s may be different, and r_{II} and r_{II}' are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4alkyl group];

23-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Withdrawn) A composition for improving tissue fibrosis, which comprises a compound according to claim 5, and an inert carrier;

26. (Withdrawn) A method for improving tissue fibrosis, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 5 to a mammal in need thereof;

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Withdrawn) A composition for suppressing the activity of TGF-β, which comprises a compound according to claim 5, and an inert carrier;

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Withdrawn) A composition for hair growth which comprises a compound according to claim 5, and an inert carrier;

31. (Withdrawn) A method for growing hair, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 5 to a mammal in need thereof;

32-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Withdrawn) A method for improving tissue fibrosis, which comprises administering an effective amount of the composition according to claim 17 to a mammal in need thereof.

35. (Withdrawn) A method for improving tissue fibrosis, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to a mammal in need thereof;

36. (Cancelled)

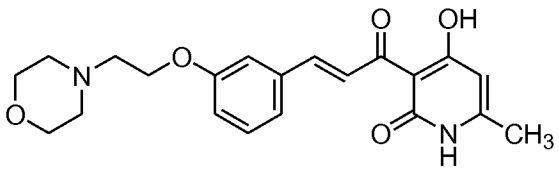
37. (Withdrawn) A method for suppressing the activity of TGF-β, which comprises administering an effective amount of the composition according to claim 17 to a mammal in need thereof.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Withdrawn) A method for growing hair, which comprises administering an effective amount of the composition according to claim 17 to a mammal in need thereof.

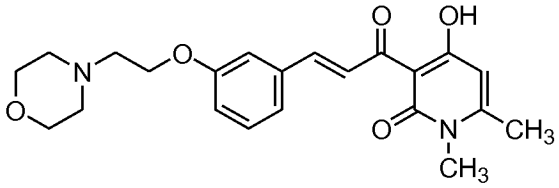
40. (Withdrawn) A method for growing hair, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to a mammal in need thereof;

41. (Withdrawn) A 2(1H)-pyridinone compound represented by the formula (XXIII):



(XIII)

42. (Withdrawn) A 2(1H)-pyridinone compound represented by the formula (XXIV):



(XIV)

43. (Withdrawn) A method for suppressing transcription of a type I collagen gene, which comprises administering an effective amount of the composition according to claim 17 to a mammal in need thereof.

44. (New) A compound represented by the formula: